RESIDENTIAL ARREARAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Blackstone Gas Company (the "Company") adopts the following Arrearage Management Program ("Program") in accordance with the Heating Energy Assistance and Tax Relief Act ("Act"). St. 2005, c. 140, Section 17 to become effective no later than February 28, 2006, subject to approval by the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy

- 1. The Program shall offer eligible customers of the Company payment plans, arrearage forgiveness, energy efficiency audits and links to other financial grants and assistance.
- 2. The Program shall be available to eligible low-income customers, as defined in G.L. c. 164, eligible for low-income discount rates including heating and non-heating customers ("Eligible Customer"). The Company will coordinate the Plan with the low-income weatherization and fuel assistance agencies within its service territory.
- 3. Any Eligible Customer with an account balance of \$400 or more, that includes charges for service from more than two monthly bills may request an Arrearage Management Plan ("Plan") from the Company.
- 4. The Company and Eligible Customer shall negotiate a Plan which shall provide for an initial payment by the Customer of not less than 15% nor more than 25% of the arrearage amount, and monthly payments of the remaining arrearage amount payable in no less than four (4) nor more than twelve (12) months. When the low-income weatherization and fuel assistance agency initially negotiates a proposed Plan with an Eligible Customer, said Plan will be subject to prior approval by the Company. If the Customer makes the payments required by the Plan and is current on his/her account with the Company at the end of the Plan term, the Company shall credit Customer an amount equal to the last monthly arrearage payment, but not more than \$400 under the Plan.

Issued: March 8, 2006 Effective: March 1, 2006

Per DTE Order 05-86(February 28, 2006).

Issued by James A. Wojcik, President Blackstone Gas Company 61 Main Street Blackstone, MA 01504

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5. Any incremental credit applied to a Customer under a Plan and any incremental administrative costs incurred including without limitation any payments by the Company to the low-income weatherization and fuel assistance agencies within its service territory to coordinate the Plan for one or more customers shall be considered an additional low-income discount and subject to recovery by the Company under the Residential Assistance Adjustment Clause, Rate RAAC.

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